

Forest Certification Work Instruction
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Date of Draft Document:**Effective Date:** August 5, 2005**Revision Number:** 1**Supersedes Version Dated:** June 20, 2005

Work Instruction Title: 1.1 Strategic Framework for Sustainable Management of State Forest Land**Work Area Group:** 1 – Plan, Monitor, and Review

Purpose: To provide guidance for sustainable management on State Forest lands. Identify Work Instructions necessary to meet forest certification standards. Identify actions necessary for the implementation of Work Instructions within the DNR.

Work Instruction:

- I. The DNR will prepare a Statewide Forest Management Guidance document that will provide forest management guiding principles, strategies, and goals. The document will also describe forest planning processes at three levels (state/department, ecoregion/district, and local/forest management unit (FMU)), and a multi-level management review system.

The document will be developed through an interdivisional effort of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Forest, Mineral and Fire Management personnel. It will be submitted and approved by the Statewide Council by August, 2005.

The Statewide Forest Management Guidance document will include the following:

1. Purpose and Use
 - 1.1 Part 525, Sustainable Forestry on State Forestlands
 - 1.2 SFI and FSC Certification Standards
 - 1.3 Use of this document in the context of other DNR initiatives
2. Vision and Mission for DNR-Managed Forest Lands
 - 2.1 Vision of Desired Future Conditions for DNR-Managed Forest Lands
 - 2.2 Mission for DNR-Managed Forest Lands
 - 2.3 Strategic Principles
 - 2.3.1 Ecological Principles
 - 2.3.2 Social-Economic Principles
3. Forest Administration and Authority
 - 3.1 Statewide Authorities – authority of divisions and the Statewide Council, processes and planning initiatives
 - 3.2 Eco-region teams – authority, processes and planning templates
 - 3.3 Districts and Management Units – authority, processes and planning templates
 - 3.4 DNR Land Management System
4. Operational Forest Management Guidance
 - 4.1 Ecological Guidance

- 4.1.1 Principle 1. Sustainable Ecosystem-based Management
 - Sub-Principle 1.1 Conservation of Geophysical Processes
 - Sub-Principle 1.2 Conservation of Biodiversity
 - Sub-Principle 1.3 Maintenance of Biotic Productivity
- 4.2 Social-Economic Guidance
 - 4.2.1 Principle 2. Maintenance of Essential Ecosystem Services
 - 4.2.2 Principle 3. Sustain Social-Economic Values
 - 4.2.3 Principle 4. Provision of Public Access
 - Sub-Principle 4.1 Recreational Opportunities
 - Sub-Principle 4.2 Educational Opportunities
 - Sub-Principle 4.3 Cultural Uses

- 5. Monitoring, Review, and Revision Processes
 - 5.1 Management Review Process
 - 5.2 Monitoring Process
 - 5.3 Other Monitoring Processes
 - 5.4 Revision Process

II. Use of Forest Certification Work Instructions

- a. The DNR has adopted the use of Forest Certification Work Instructions to guide the planning, operations, and review of management on State forest Lands. DNR Staff are instructed to follow these Work Instructions in the daily work. Following these instructions will allow the DNR to meet the requirements of sustainable forest management as defined in the SFI and FSC certification standards. Any revisions to the Work Instructions are to be approved by the Statewide Council following review by Division Management Teams.

b. List of Work Instructions

Work Area Group (WAG) 1 Plan, Monitor, and Review

- 1.1 Strategic Framework for Sustainable Management of State Forest Land.
- 1.2 Management Review Process for Continual Improvement in the Management of Forest Resources.
- 1.3 Ecoregional Plan Development.
- 1.4 Biodiversity Management on State Forest Lands.
- 1.5 Social Impact Considerations and Public Involvement Processes.
- 1.6 Forest Management Unit Analyses.
- 1.7 State Forest Timber Harvest Trends

Work Area Group 2 Forest Regeneration and Chemical Use

- 2.1 Reforestation
- 2.2 Use of Pesticides and other Chemicals on State Forest Lands.
- 2.3 Integrated Pest Management and Forest Health

Work Area Group 3 BMPs

- 3.1 Forest Operations
- 3.2 Best Management Practices Non-conformance Reporting Instructions
- 3.3 Road Closures

Work Area Group 4 This WAG was deleted - all related indicators were combined with WAG 7.

Work Area Group 5 Research

- 5.1 Coordinated Natural Resource Management Research.

Work Area Group 6 Education and Recreation

- 6.1 Implementing Education Opportunities on State Forests
- 6.2 Integrating Public Recreational Opportunities with Management on State Forest Lands
- 6.3 SFI Involvement and the Michigan State Implementation Committee

Work Area Group 7 Integrated Implementation and Contracting

- 7.1 Timber Sale Preparation and Administration Procedures
- 7.2 Legal Compliance and Administration of Contracts

Work Area Group 8 Training

- 8.1 MDNR Staff Training for State Forest Management.

Work Area Group 9 Tribal Issues

- 9.1 Collaboration with Tribes in regard to management of State Forest Land.

III. DNR Leadership Actions

To meet forest certification standards a variety of new initiatives need to be implemented within the DNR. Many of these new initiatives require the approval of DNR leadership. The following table lists the required DNR leadership actions necessary to implement the Forest Certifications Work Instructions.

Table 2. Required Leadership Actions

Action	Responsibility	Work Instruction
Appoint Statewide Planning Team	Statewide Council	Eco-regional Plan Development State-level Strategic Framework
Approve Work Instructions	Statewide Council	State-level Strategic Framework
Establish a Forest Advisory Committee	Director	Social Impact Considerations and Public Involvement Processes
Approve the Statewide Forest Management Guidance document	Statewide Council	State-level Strategic Framework
Appoint Eco-regional Planning Teams	Statewide Council	Eco-regional Plan Development
Delegate Emergency Road Closure Authority	Director	Road Closure
Approve Change in the Approval Process for Intrusive Operations	Statewide Council	Forest Operations
Dedicate Funding to Address BMP and Forest Regeneration Non-conformances	Division Chiefs	BMP non-conformance reporting and Reforestation
Implement Annual Management Review	Statewide Council	Management Review Process
Delegate Authority to Conduct Internal Audits	Statewide Council	Management Review Process
Authorize Surveillance and Certification Audits.	Director	Statewide Strategic Framework
Implement Annual Meetings with Federally Recognized Michigan Tribes	Statewide Coordinator for Tribal Issues	Tribal Issues
Appoint Statewide Biodiversity Planning Team	Statewide Council	Biodiversity Considerations on State Forest Lands
Dedicate Funding to Implement Biodiversity Survey Needs and Protection, Management, and Monitoring Measures	FMFM and WLD Division Chiefs	Biodiversity Considerations on State Forest Lands

Scope: (All State Forest Land and Affected Divisions): ☒ State Forest Land ☐ Other: _____

☒ DNR – FMFM ☒ DNR – Wildlife ☒ DNR – Fish ☒ DNR – Law ☐ DNR – Parks

Responsibility and Role: (Staff who will implement or supervise this instruction)

Job Title/Division	Role
State-wide Planning Team	Draft Guidance Document, communicate to Statewide Council, communicate to DNR following Statewide Council approval
Statewide Council, Director, Division Chiefs	Complete actions necessary for the implementation of Work Instructions within the DNR.
Field Coordinators, Basin, Peninsular, District and Unit Managers/ FMFM, FSH, & WLD	Ensure work instructions are fully implemented
District Planning and Inventory Specialists/ FMFM; District Ecologists, WLD	Provide oversight in implementing standards, monitoring and evaluating performance.
Ecoteams	Incorporate guidance into ecoregional plans
All MDNR Land Management Staff	To be knowledgeable of document and guidance contained therein and to ensure guidance is reflected in operations.

Training/Skills: (Those required to accomplish work instruction)

Item:	Brief Description of Skill or Course	Exists/ New
Planning, Monitoring, and Reviewing Processes	Inform employees of principles; review planning processes, monitoring templates and review processes.	<input type="checkbox"/> E <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N

References:

- Draft Statewide Forest Management Guidance
 - Part 525, Statewide Forest Resources Plan, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451
 - FSC & SFI Forest Certification Standards
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Monitoring:

- The Forest Certification internal audits and external audits will determine DNR's effectiveness in implementing sustainable forest management. This work instruction will be monitored and adapted based upon the results of these audits.
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Records:

- Audit reports
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